

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A lancing device comprising:
a housing;
a lancing mechanism operatively attached to the housing,
a pressure tip for engaging a target site and creating a target site bulge, the pressure tip moveably attached to the housing and creating the target site bulge upon being urged toward the target site; and
a trigger mechanism for detecting a target site bulge of a predetermined height created by the urging of the pressure tip against the target site and, thereafter, triggering an immobilization of the pressure tip with respect to the housing, thereby preventing subsequent change in target site bulge location relative to said housing.
2. (Original) The lancing device of claim 1, wherein the lancing device further includes:
a bias spring for applying a pre-load force against the pressure tip.
3. (Original) The lancing device of claim 2, wherein the bias spring is configured to apply a pre-load force in the range of 3N to 13 N against the pressure tip.
4. (Original) The lancing device of claim 2, wherein the bias spring is configured to apply a pre-load force in the range of 9N to 10 N against the pressure tip.
5. (Original) The lancing device of claim 1, wherein the trigger mechanism includes at least one locking pawl and at least one pawl trigger arm.
6. (Original) The lancing device of claim 5, wherein the locking pawl includes pawl ratchet teeth and wherein the pressure tip includes pressure tip ratchet teeth.

7. (Withdrawn) The test strip of claim 5, wherein the first edge indentation and second edge indentation are each configured to accommodate a forearm target site.

8. (Withdrawn) The test strip of claim 1, wherein the first and the second edge indentations are rectangular in shape.

9. (Withdrawn) The test strip of claim 1, wherein the analytical portion includes a reagent pad.

10. (Original) The lancing device of claim 1, wherein the trigger mechanism is configured to initiate lancing by the lancing mechanism once the pressure tip has been immobilized.

11. (Currently Amended) A method for lancing a target site, the method comprising:

providing a lancing device that includes:

a housing;

a lancing mechanism operatively attached to the housing,

a pressure tip for engaging a target site and creating a target site bulge, the pressure tip moveably attached to the housing and creating the target site bulge upon being urged toward the target site; and

a trigger mechanism for detecting a target site bulge of a predetermined height created by the urging of the pressure tip against the target site and, thereafter, triggering an immobilization of the pressure tip with respect to the housing, thereby preventing subsequent change in target site bulge location relative to said housing;

contacting the pressure tip with the target site;

urging the pressure tip towards the target site, thereby creating target site bulge that is detected by the trigger mechanism and triggering an immobilization of the pressure tip with respect to the housing; and

lancing the target site bulge with the lancet mechanism.

12. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein the target site is a dermal tissue target site.

13. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein the providing step provides a lancing device that further includes a bias spring for applying a pre-load force against the pressure tip.